

Jn Netsers Win Wightman Play Title

By Karin Bartow

The "Cohasset Rec'ers", two junior teams in the Harris-Wightman League of the NELTA (New England Lawn Tennis Association), beat Abington last week, making them the South East Champions.

The 14-and-under team played Thursday taking a full sweep, 8-0; the 18-and-under team won 5-1 Saturday.

The 14-and-under's will play The Sportsman Tennis Team, representing Metro Boston, Aug. 27 at the Sportsman's Club, Boston, in the quarter-finals round. The date of the 18-and-under's match has not been announced.

The Harris-Wightman League is being promoted by the NELTA to establish a "major junior grassroots program in New England." The conviction that kids who are

introduced to organized tennis programs will develop positive and enthusiastic feelings about the sport, is shared by the 35 players and their parents. Mrs. Helen Pratt, physical education teacher at the Osgood School and a person who many times before has helped coach and advise community sports activities, was instrumental in forming the teams. Like the other parents, Mrs. Pratt wanted to see the kids involved in structured activity in tennis on a community team.

Getting themselves organized and into the League was the first step of team play. They have come under the wing of the Recreation Department and have received much support from them. John Roy, who coaches tennis for the department, has worked with the 18-and-under team and helped wherever he can. "The



ALL STARS of Little League play are, front from left, Peter McGee, Tim Campbell, Dave MacDonald, Chris Kuhn, Toby Chamberlain and Bob Corkery. Rear, Dave Bersteen, manager; Jim Staunton, Steve O'Connor, Mike Roan, Phil Bernstein, Kevin Quilty, Bill McKenna, Troy Chatterton, Jeff Chod, manager and Dave Campbell, manager.

enthusiasm and extra time John has given has meant a great deal," Mrs. Pratt says. She coaches the 14-and-under team.

Most teams that Cohasset plays aren't members of the NELTA, so "it's been just fun between towns," says Mrs. Pratt. "The morale is terrific; they learn so much in team play," she adds. Her team won all eight games in their match with Hingham, the other NELTA member team in the South East area. None of the kids are ranked within the League; however there are now three who are strong enough to play in a few B Level matches. They aren't eligible to qualify for ranking until next year.

The format differs somewhat from match to match, but the teams usually play two singles, one doubles, and

sometimes a mixed doubles game.

The parents are the greatest cheerleaders, says Mrs. Pratt, and their help in driving to and from matches and practices has been an indispensable part of the spirit of these two young, talented and successful teams.

The players in the 14-and-under team include: (listed according to ranking) Mia Graham, Joy Pratt, Krissie Ralff, Justine Hoffman, Elaine Mullen, Diane Mullen, Alison Broeffle, and Ann O'Connell; Shannon Collins, John Ryan,

Michael O'Donnell, John Colocousis, Paul Riley, Skipper Besse, Jeb Bradley, Lee Wilson and Bill Riley.

The players in the 18-and-under team include: Lisa McAdams, Sue Dalrymple, David Schliecher, Jerry White, Karen Murphy, Ronnie White, Bob Tis, Janel England and Lauren Murphy.

In addition, Sandy Dalrymple, Mike Brady, Mike Nellon, Jack Antoin, Sue Murphy, and Madeline Roy have played several matches with some of the other team players, as a 16-and-under group.

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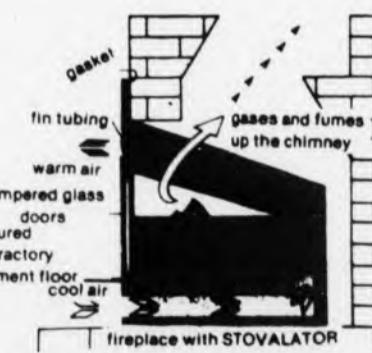
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